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(72) Inventors:
• **Torf, Kevin R.**
El Segundo, CA 90245 (US)
• **Kim, Ryan T.**
El Segundo, CA 90245 (US)

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(74) Representative: **Overath, Philippe et al**
Cabinet Bede S.A., Place de l'Alma, 3
1200 Bruxelles (BE)

(71) Applicant: **Tornado Development, Inc.**
El Segundo, CA 90245 (US)

(54) **Method and apparatus for unified message storage and delivery system**

(57) A unified messaging system includes a means for receiving a message at a unified messaging computer server, a first translation means is coupled to the means for receiving, the translation means translating the message into a neutral object, a storage means is coupled to the computer server for storing said neutral

object, a retrieval means for retrieving said neutral object from said storage means is coupled to said computer server, and a second translation means for converting said neutral object into a message having a form desired by an intended recipient is coupled to said computer server.



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Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 87 0102

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.CI.7)
X	US 4 837 798 A (OSTERWEIL JANIS R ET AL) 6 June 1989 (1989-06-06) * abstract * * column 2, line 39 - line 67 * * column 3, line 43 - line 45 * * figure 1 *	1	G06F17/60
A	GB 2 338 862 A (VIRTUALPLUS LIMITED) 29 December 1999 (1999-12-29) * abstract * * claims 1,2 *	1	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.CI.7)
			G06F H04L H04M
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		13 November 2001	Falierou, C
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82